

LITERARY NOTES.

Mr. Henry James has written a wholly American story called "Impressions of a Cousin." It is a sketch of New-York life and will be appropriately printed in *The Century*—which proposes to publish presently two other stories by Mr. James. One of these has the musical title of "Lady Barbarina."

The indefatigable Wilkie Collins is writing another novel.

Mrs. Dahlgren's very poor novel, "A Washington Winter," appears to have profited by the adverse judgments of the critics. It has gone into another edition.

Dr. Robert B. Joyce, the author of "Dierdre" and "Bland," has lost his health and has been obliged to give up his practice in Boston and to break up his home there. He has returned to Dublin, where he will live with his brother, an official under the Government.

A third edition of Longman's beautifully illustrated New Testament has just appeared in London. The first edition which was published in 1863 was an imperial quarto, limited to 250 large-paper copies. The price was ten guineas; and the whole edition was sold on the day of publication. The second edition (a crown quarto) appeared in the following year, and has long been out of print. Both have long become dear to collectors. The present issue is not quite so well printed as its predecessor and is tastelessly bound; but in all else it is an exact reproduction of the second edition.

Mr. G. W. Cable's new novel "Dr. Sevier" will be begun in the November *Century*. It is a story of New-Orleans, and the time is that picturesque period just before the Civil War.

I have not, as you suggest, the slightest sympathy for the slaves," wrote Hawthorne to a friend in a letter now first printed in *The Boston Saturday Evening Gazette*. "Or at least," he adds, "not half so much as for the laboring whites, who, I believe, as a general thing are ten times worse off than the Southern negroes. Still, whenever I am absolutely cornered I shall go for New-England rather than the South; and this Fugitive Law cornered me. Of course, I knew what I was doing when I signed that Free Soil document, and bade farewell to all ideas of foreign consuls or other official stations, so that I doubt whether you or I ever go to Rio together. Perhaps you may go alone, if you wish; I don't care a copper for office."

The portrait of Longfellow, which is to appear in the next *Century*, is mentioned as an unusually fine one. It is said that Mr. Stedman's paper on Longfellow will contain some memorable passages on the hexameter and on the Cambridge poet's use of that measure.

During the past six months 7,058 books have been published in Germany. Of these, 1,000 are educational, 780 treat of theology and 219 are novels.

The gradual elimination of the pathetic element from literature is the subject of a long lamentation in *The London Spectator*. "While the interest over a heartrending calamity," declares this writer, "is interrupted with laughter at every grotesque or absurd expression in the account of the disaster, while the pages of *Punch* are the chief study of the young in their leisure hours, and while the bracketed 'laughter' in our Parliamentary reports call the attention of the reader to statements in which there is no wit or pleasantness, or any possible source of them, we shall lose the pathetic element in literature, and a great many other good things also. Against this vulgarizing tendency of our time we would gladly see a strong and conscious effort, being certain that it would encourage not only those faculties which make literature pathetic, but also that it would reinforce the sources of all true humor, as much the friend to true pathos as it is the foe of its vulgar and libelous caricature."

This "garzizing tendency" is cruelly illustrated in the proposal to open Shakespeare's grave. It would be hard to give any reason for this unseemly desecration other than the coarsest curiosity.

Mr. Aldrich's "Mercedes and Later Lyrics," will be published by Houghton, Mifflin & Co. next month. "Mercedes" is a historical drama.

The illustrations of the holiday edition of Longfellow's "Michael Angelo" are the work of Walter Shirlaw, T. De Thulstrup, L. Ritter, T. Wendell, Ross Turner, F. D. Millet, S. L. Smith, T. Hoven, and are engraved by G. Kruell, W. B. Clossen, T. Johnson, Frank French, George T. Andrew, H. F. Krause, H. E. Sylvester, and Victor Bernstrom. The book will be brought out in November.

Miss Elizabeth Stuart Phelps has written a story of the future life as foreseen by a "reverent imagination." It is entitled "Beyond the Gates," and carries the reader into those celestial regions of which "The Gates Ajar" permitted only a glimpse. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. will publish the book in October.

Mr. Seward's "Diplomatic History of the War for the Union" will be issued by the same firm this month. This volume is edited by G. E. Baker from the journal sent by Mr. Seward to our representatives abroad during the war.

Among other interesting publications promised by this house are Mr. Charles Dudley Warner's book of sketches "A Roundabout Journey," and Mr. W. W. Story's poem "He and She: A Poet's Portfolio."

New Publications.

15 CENTS. "WAVERLEY NOVELS."

THE WAVERLEY NOVELS AT 15 CENTS EACH, PELTON'S CHEAP EDITION FOR THE MILLION.

"VANHOE" and "THE BRIDE OF LAMMERMOOR" have already been published, and the whole twenty-six will be issued. Each book will make a large octavo volume, have on the back a full title-page, and be sold at \$1.00 each. The first volume will be ready for the fall of 1861, and payment for the full set will be required on delivery. Each volume will consist of twelve volumes, and copies of the novels, or complete sets of the edition, will be sold at the price of 15 cents each, post-paid, at these rates on remittance to the publishers.

26 VOLUMES, 15 CENTS EACH; \$1 A SET.

HENRY HENRY THREE DOLLARS TO DR. PETERSON & BROTHERS, Philadelphia, and they will then be sold at the full price, and the fall and complete set of "Waverley Novels," and "VANHOE" and "THE BRIDE OF LAMMERMOOR" will be issued. Each book will make a large octavo volume, have on the back a full title-page, and be sold at \$1.00 each. The first volume will be ready for the fall of 1861, and payment for the full set will be required on delivery. Each volume will consist of twelve volumes, and copies of the novels, or complete sets of the edition, will be sold at the price of 15 cents each, post-paid, at these rates on remittance to the publishers.

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